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PATENT

Attorney Reference Number 5578-58206-01/RJP
Application Number 09/800,273

Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1- 64. (canceled)

65. (currently amended) A trampoline enclosure system comprising:

~~a frame;~~

~~plural legs that extend upwardly from the ground and support the frame above the ground;~~

~~a rebounding mat coupled to the frame by plural spring members;~~

~~plural independent poles that extend~~ attached to a trampoline that has a frame and a rebounding mat supported by the frame, each pole terminating at an end positioned above the rebounding mat and at an end positioned below the rebounding mat, the uppermost elevation of each pole being above the rebounding mat by a distance of five to eight feet above the rebounding mat, each pole being spaced apart from the other poles and attached to at least one of the frame or legs;

~~an expanse of flexible material that is supported above the rebounding mat by the plural independent poles and that extends to an elevation sufficiently above the elevation of the rebounding mat to provide an enclosure that prevents a jumping person is positioned to serve as a barrier to prevent jumpers from falling off the trampoline, the frame, the poles, and the flexible material being interconnected such that at least some of the poles become loaded with energy when a jumping person impacts the flexible material, whereafter energy stored in the poles is promptly released as a reaction force that urges the poles back toward their original positions~~ rebounding mat.

66-67. (canceled)

68. (new) The trampoline enclosure system according to claim 65 further comprising a protective covering located at the upper end of at least one of the poles.

69. (new) A trampoline enclosure system comprising:

~~plural independent poles that attach to a trampoline, each pole being spaced apart from the other poles, each pole having at least one lower portion positioned below the level of the rebounding~~

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mat, and each pole being constructed such that a majority of the pole's length is employed to increase the pole's height above the rebounding mat;

resilient material covering at least a portion of at least one of the poles above the level of the rebounding mat; and

a barrier expanse of flexible material that is supported above the rebounding mat by the plural independent poles to prevent jumpers from falling off.

70. (new) The trampoline enclosure system according to claim 69 wherein at least one of the poles has both of its ends positioned below the rebounding mat.

71. (new) A trampoline enclosure system comprising:

plural independent poles that are that attached to the frame and/or legs of a trampoline and that have a portion that extends above the rebounding mat, at least one of the poles having both of its ends positioned below the rebounding mat, with each pole being spaced apart from the other poles; and

a barrier expanse of flexible material that is supported above the rebounding mat by the plural independent poles to prevent jumpers from falling off.